

Dec. 14, 2012

This Week:

- Ferry service disruptions and vessel moves update
- WSDOT recognized by WA Clean Cities Coalition
- Jefferson County Chambers meeting
- Commission briefing
- Life Ring Awards Lunch
- FAC Executive Council meeting
- Customer compliment

Ferry service disruptions and vessel moves update

We have five ferries out of service – three unexpectedly and two for planned maintenance. As a result, we have vessels moving around the system. Below is the current status on vessel moves:

On Friday, Dec. 14 (evening):

- The 202-car *Tacoma*, in for routine maintenance, is expected to return to service on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route, replacing the 202-car *Puyallup*.
- The *Puyallup* will replace the 144-car *Kaleetan* on the Edmonds/Kingston route.
- The *Kaleetan* will return to the Seattle/Bremerton route, replacing the 64-car *Salish*.

On Sunday, Dec. 16:

- The *Salish* moves to the Fauntleroy/Southworth/Vashon Island route, restoring three-boat service.

On Monday, Dec. 17:

- The 90-car *Sealth*, undergoing weld repairs this weekend, will replace the 144-car *Elwha* on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route.
- The *Elwha* will replace the 124-car *Chelan* on the international route.
- The *Chelan* will go out of service for regularly scheduled maintenance.

The 144-car *Hyak*, also in for routine maintenance, is expected to be back in service on the Seattle/Bremerton route in late December following Coast Guard inspection. Two other ferries, the 87-car *Klahowya* and the 188-car *Walla Walla*, are expected to return to service mid-Jan. and spring 2013, respectively. The *Klahowya* is awaiting repairs to a propulsion generator, while the *Walla Walla* is awaiting repairs to a drive motor.

Due to the unexpected number of vessels out of service for repairs and the priority of providing regular service, it's with sadness that we've canceled the annual holiday cruise for people with disabilities, which was scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 15, to bring the *Tacoma* back into service sooner. On the advice from representatives from the Active Ferry Employees Charitable Trust, we've decided not to postpone the cruise, but rather focus on making the 2013 holiday cruise the best yet!

We appreciate the patience of our customers as we work to return vessels to service. I want to thank our crews who have worked tirelessly to manage vessel moves and the capacity issues on the routes affected. Customers should [sign up for email alerts](#) to keep up with the latest information on ferry service.

WSDOT recognized by WA Clean Cities Coalition

WSF Deputy Chief George Capacci and WSDOT representatives attended an awards ceremony Tuesday night. WSDOT and WSF received the "Alternative Fuels Sustainable Commitment Award" at the annual general meeting of the 2012 Western Washington Clean Cities Coalition. WSF began using ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) in 2007, which burns much cleaner than the previous standard marine diesel. In addition, 54 percent of the fuel used by WSF in fiscal year 2012 was B5, a blend of 5 percent biodiesel and 95 percent ULSD. I would like to acknowledge the many people at WSF who work on reducing vessel fuel consumption as well as our use of alternative fuels – thank you and congratulations on a job well done!

Jefferson County Chambers meeting

I wrapped up the latest round of community meetings on Monday at the Jefferson County Chambers meeting. I enjoyed the discussion at all nine community meetings that took place in November and December. I really appreciate the many community members and customers who joined us at these meetings. If you want more information about our community meetings or to review materials, visit us [online](#).

Commission briefing

This Wednesday two presentations were given to the Transportation Commission in Olympia. Ray Deardorf, planning director, talked about the work of the Ferry Advisory Committee on Tariff (FAC-T) as well as an outline of next year's tariff process and potential topics. He was aided by Greg Beardsley, Chair of the Vashon Ferry Advisory Committee and also Chair of the FAC-T. Marta Coursey, director of communications, presented WSF's marketing plan, including the new community marketing campaign, [Go Somewhere](#), developed in partnership with our ferry-served visitors bureaus and chambers of commerce, which I reported on [last week](#).

Life Ring Awards Lunch

This week we honored Captain Jenssen and crew of the *Hyak*, and Captain Simpson of the *Puyallup*, at a Life Ring Awards Lunch. On Aug. 20, the crew of the *Hyak* jumped into action to rescue a man in the water who had fallen from his skiff. On Dec. 3, Captain Simpson pulled a customer from his car, possibly saving him from going into the water, after he crashed into the safety nets on the *Puyallup*. Deputy Chief George Capacci, Director of Operations Steve Rodgers, port captains and I treated our heroes to lunch in recognition of their efforts. Congratulations on a job well done!

FAC Executive Council meeting

On Thursday I met with the Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) Executive Council to discuss current issues facing the ferry system. I appreciate the dedication of all our FAC members in serving their communities. For more information on WSF's FAC process visit us [online](#).

Customer compliment

I received the following compliment from a customer of the Bainbridge Island/Seattle route. I want to thank the crew of the *Wenatchee* for their quick thinking and action to assist a customer in need.

I wanted to commend the crew on the [Dec. 6th] 7:55 am sailing from Bainbridge to Seattle...for remaining calm and quickly handling the passenger that went into cardiac arrest this morning. It was already upsetting for those of us sitting nearby that heard him, so their calm, quick, and quiet (as they could be) handling of the situation went a long way towards not making it worse. Job well done.

Next Week:

- WSF safety event
- Fleet visit

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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